

<<MemberFirstName>> <<MemberLastName>> <<Address1>> <<Address2>> <<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip Code>>

<< Date>> (Format: Month Day, Year)

# **Notice of Security Incident**

Dear << MemberFirstName>> << MemberLastName>>,

We are writing to notify you of a data security incident recently experienced by Santoro CPA that may have resulted in the disclosure of personal information, including your name, address, and Social Security number. This information was provided to Santoro CPA in connection with tax preparation and bookkeeping services we provided to your employer, former employer or a company for which you provided services as a subcontractor. We value and respect the privacy of your information, and we sincerely apologize for any concern or inconvenience this may cause you. This letter contains information about steps you can take to protect your information, and resources we are making available to help you.

## 1. What happened and what information was involved:

Santoro CPA recently learned of a data security incident involving information stored on its servers, and immediately hired independent computer forensic experts to assist with our investigation. On August 19, 2016, the forensic investigators informed us that an unauthorized user may have accessed the data housed on Santoro CPA's server. This includes information related to tax documents and bookkeeping records that may have included your name, address, and Social Security number.

# 2. What we are doing and what you can do:

In order to protect you and your personal information, we have engaged Kroll to provide single bureau credit monitoring and identity restoration services at no cost to you for two years. Kroll is a global leader in risk mitigation and response, and their team has extensive experience helping people who have sustained an unintentional exposure of confidential data.

If you are over the age of 18 years old, please visit **krollbreach.idmonitoringservice.com** to enroll and take advantage of your identity monitoring services. When you visit the link to enroll, use the following Membership Number: << Member ID>>

To receive credit monitoring, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file. While credit monitoring is not available to those under the age of 18, minors are automatically enrolled to receive Identity Consultation and Restoration services.

We want to assure you that we are taking steps to prevent this type of event from occurring in the future. Additionally, we have informed the IRS of our investigation to help protect you from fraudulent tax filings in the future.

### 3. For more information:

If you have any questions or concerns, please call 1-866-775-4209, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Your trust is a top priority for Santoro CPA, and we deeply regret any inconvenience or concern that this matter may cause you.

Sincerely.

Charlie Santoro Santoro CPA

# U.S. State Notification Requirements

#### For residents of Hawaii, Michigan, Missouri, Virginia, Vermont, and North Carolina:

It is recommended by state law that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing credit card account statements and monitoring your credit report for unauthorized activity.

### For residents of Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Oregon, and West Virginia:

It is required by state laws to inform you that you may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, whether or not you suspect any unauthorized activity on your account. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report by contacting any one or more of the following national consumer reporting agencies:

**Equifax** Experian **TransUnion** P.O. Box 105139 P.O. Box 2002 P.O. Box 6790 Atlanta, GA 30374 Allen, TX 75013 Fullerton, CA 92834 1-800-685-1111 1-888-397-3742 1-800-916-8800 www.equifax.com www.experian.com www.transunion.com

You may also obtain a free copy of your credit report online at www.annualcreditreport.com, by calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, or by mailing an Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at www.annualcreditreport.com) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281.

#### For residents of lowa:

State law advises you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

#### For residents of Oregon:

State laws advise you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, as well as the Federal Trade Commission.

#### For residents of Maryland, Illinois, and North Carolina:

You can obtain information from the Maryland and North Carolina Offices of the Attorneys General and the Federal Trade Commission about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft.

**Maryland Office of the Attorney General** Consumer Protection Division 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202 1-888-743-0023

www.oag.state.md.us

**North Carolina Office of the** Attorney General Consumer Protection Division

9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-9001 1-877-566-7226 www.ncdoj.com

**Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center** 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338)

www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft

#### For residents of Massachusetts:

It is required by state law that you are informed of your right to obtain a police report if you are a victim of identity theft.

### For residents of all states:

Fraud Alerts: You can place fraud alerts with the three credit bureaus at one of the three major credit bureaus by phone and also via Experian's or Equifax's website. A fraud alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures, including contacting you, before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts. For that reason, placing a fraud alert can protect you, but also may delay you when you seek to obtain credit. The contact information for all three credit bureaus is below.

Monitoring: You should always remain vigilant and monitor your accounts for suspicious or unusual activity.

Security Freeze: You also have the right to place a security freeze on your credit report. A security freeze is intended to prevent credit, loans and services from being approved in your name without your consent. To place a security freeze on your credit report, you need to send a request to each consumer reporting agency by certified mail, overnight mail, or regular stamped mail. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse, this information must be provided for him/her as well): (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past five years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The request must also include a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement. It is essential that each copy be legible, display your name and current mailing address, and the date of issue. The consumer reporting agency may charge a fee of up to \$5.00 to place a freeze or lift or remove a freeze, but is free if you are a victim of identity theft or the spouse of a victim of identity theft, and you have submitted a valid police report relating to the identity theft incident to the consumer reporting agency. You may obtain a security freeze by contacting any one or more of the following national consumer reporting agencies:

**Equifax Security Freeze** P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348

www.equifax.com

**Experian Security Freeze** P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 http://www.experian.com/freeze TransUnion (FVAD) P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19022 www.transunion.com

More information can also be obtained by contacting the Federal Trade Commission listed above.